WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   *SUB A2>*   1.   A method for managing software conflicts, the method
2   comprising the steps of:
3   determining changes made to a computer system's files and other
4   shared resources during installation of at least one application into the computer
5   system to obtain change information;
6   processing the change information to determine which files and shared
7   resources conflict with one another to obtain conflict information;
8   storing the conflict information in a database of interrelated tables; and
9   resolving the software conflicts based on the stored conflict
10   information.

1   *SUB C2>*   2.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes DLL file conflict information.

1   3.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes registry conflict information.

1   4.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes shortcut conflict information.

1   5.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes driver conflict information.

1   6.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes data source conflict information.

1   7.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes service conflict information.

1   8.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes device conflict information.

-51-

1   9.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes Microsoft Windows Installer component conflict information.

1   10.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes autoexec.bat conflict information.

1   11.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes config.sys conflict information.

1   12.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes INI changes conflict information.

1   13.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the conflict
2   information includes path conflict information.

1   14.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the step of resolving
2   includes the step of generating an installer from the information stored in the
3   database for the at least one application.

1   15.   The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one of the
2   tables has a conflict field for storing a conflict level indication therein.

1   *SUB A37*   16.   A computer-readable storage medium having stored therein a
2   program which executes the steps of:
3   determining changes made to a computer system's files and other
4   shared resources during installation of at least one application into the computer
5   system to obtain change information;
6   processing the change information to determine which files and shared
7   resources conflict with one another to obtain conflict information;
8   storing the conflict information in a database of interrelated tables; and
9   resolving software conflicts based on the stored conflict information.

1 SUB C4

17.   The storage medium as claimed in claim 16 wherein the

2   program further executes the step of generating an installer for the at least one

3   application.

SUB A4

18.   A system for managing software conflicts, the system

2   comprising:

3   means for determining changes made to a computer system's files and

4   other shared resources during installation of at least one application into the computer

5   system to obtain change information;

6   means for processing the change information to determine which files

7   and shared resources conflict with one another to obtain conflict information;

8   a database of interrelated tables for storing the conflict information;

9   and

10   means for resolving the software conflicts based on the stored conflict

11   information.

1 SUB C6

19.   The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict

2   information includes DLL file conflict information.

1   20.   The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict

2   information includes registry conflict information.

1   21.   The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict

2   information includes shortcut conflict information.

1   22.   The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict

2   information includes driver conflict information.

1   23.   The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict

2   information includes data source conflict information.

1   24.   The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict

2   information includes service conflict information.

25. The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict information includes device conflict information.

26. The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict information includes Microsoft Windows Installer component conflict information.

27. The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict information includes autoexec.bat conflict information.

28. The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict information includes config.sys conflict information.

29. The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict information includes INI changes conflict information.

30. The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the conflict information includes path conflict information.

31. The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the means for resolving includes means for generating an installer from the information stored in the database for the at least one application.

32. The system as claimed in claim 18 wherein at least one of the tables has a conflict field for storing a conflict level indicator therein.

ADD C77